

200212893  
DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED



EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
Operations Center

S15

RELEASED IN FULL

## Afternoon Brief No. 4

Saturday, May 25, 2002  
0730 EDT

### TAIWANESE JET CRASHES INTO THE SEA

(U) Over 200 passengers and crew members were aboard the China Airlines 747 en route from Taipei to Hong Kong when it crashed into the sea near Taiwan's Penghu Island. There is no word yet as to the accident's cause, comments AIT. Preliminary reports suggest there were only two foreign nationals on the flight, both Australian.

(Watch/AIT Taipei telcon, Watch/ConGen Hong Kong telcon, Reuters)

### PAKISTAN TESTS MISSILE; FORCES TRADE FIRE IN KASHMIR

- (U) Pakistan test-fired a medium-range Ghauri ballistic missile. The GOI said it was "not impressed" by the test, which it called routine. (Reuters, HindustanTimes.com)
- (SBU) India and Pakistan traded artillery and mortar fire in Kashmir, in some of the heaviest exchanges in recent days, report the media. The two sides continue military preparations, observes the Embassy. Senior GOI officials have signaled that unless outside powers persuade the GOP to end cross-border terrorism, they will continue to prepare for war. (Watch/Embassy New Delhi telcon, Reuters)

### ISRAEL CONTINUES OCCUPATION, CURFEW OF TULKARM

(SBU) The IDF's decision to continue its Tulkarm operation is not surprising, as one soldier was killed and two wounded in exchanges of fire May 24, notes the Consulate General. (Watch/ConGen Jerusalem telcon, haaretzdaily.com)

### VENEZUELA ASYLUM DEAL POSSIBLE; LABOR DEFIES CHAVEZ

- (U) Venezuelan VP Rangel said the GOV would not object if Colombia grants ex-President Carmona's request for asylum. (AP)
- (U) In a hearing before the Chavez-dominated National Assembly, the head of Venezuela's largest labor union blamed President Chavez for the crisis confronting the nation and demanded his resignation. (AP, el-nacional.com)

### LESOTHO TESTS MODEL ELECTORAL SYSTEM IN LEGISLATIVE RACES

(SBU) Nineteen parties are competing in the elections, conducted under a system in which some seats are awarded by district and others by proportional vote, report the media. This hybrid system should ensure opposition parties win a representative bloc in parliament, preventing the violent protests that occurred in 1998 when the ruling party won all but one seat, comments the Embassy. Early voting was calm and orderly. (Watch/Embassy Maseru telcon, bbc.co.uk)

Drafted: ADMeltzer

Dist: State (all bureaus), CIA, DOD, NSC, USUN

Approved: VLCrites

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: ADOLPH H EISNER

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

DATE/CASE ID: 03 AUG 2009 200805367

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED